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THE WEATHER.

Washington, May L.-For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Fair; warmer; south For Kansas: Fair: south winds.

Missouri: Fair; warmer; north winds, becoming routh,

LYNCH LAW AND POPULISM.

Hon, W. F. Brown, of Prutt county, who was known in the last session of the Kansas legislature as the author of the maximum freight rate bill, has furnished the press with an interview in which he expresses the belief and hope that if a special seesion is called and the Populist recreams still persist in voting against maximum rates, the outraged people will take them out and have them to the telegraph poles. "To be frank with you," said the Prait county statesman, "It is my honest opinion that should the demands of the people be again ignored some of these men will be found dangling at the end of a rope." So many phases of the situation in Kan-

sas are crowded into view by this remarkable utterance that it is difficult to treat the whole subject within the limits of a newspaper article, but perhaps as good a start as any would be to say that the people of Kansas are not unduly impressed with the enormity of the catastrophe which might seem to accompany the hanging of any considerable number of members of the present legislature. It is not alone because the people feel that they could spare a number of these gentlemen that their hurried taking off would be looked upon so complacently. Within the past few months Kansas has been very rapidly educated into a resigned-nay, cheerful-contemplation of threatened deeds of violence, and she cannot be shocked out of hand by a little matter like hanging up a score or two of representatives. It was announced by Governor Leedy at the beginning of his administration that he would employ his spare moments in blowing blood into the cars of capitalists. A little later Deputy Bank Commissioner Semple gave notice that if the United States district court persisted in executing a warrant of arrest for Webb McNall which had been all theatrical effect and substitute therereturned by the grand jury-part of whom, for intelligent realities. The leading actby the way, were Populists-the Kansas militia would be called out for the purpose of plunging the federal government into a war which would run rivers of blood and shake the Union to its foundations. A little later still a namesake of the gentleman whom we have been quoting, Mr. W. L. Brown, of Kingman, enunciated as a new doctrine in Populism the theory that every infant which did not come up to the mental and physical requirements established by the legislature should be strangled in its cradle-and thus Kansas has become so familiarized with ensanguined deeds in prospective the she no longer can even shudder when some new species of feroc-

ity is presented for consideration. The next most striking phase of this Populist programme of lynching lies in the apparent fact that a member of the legislature need not betray a pledge in order to become a candidate for the rope, the pole and then the tomb. The members whom Mr. Brown proposes to hang have never in any manner been instructed by the people of Kansas to vote for a maximum freight rate bill. No one heard of maximum freight rates in the contest of last fall. Not Populist orator in the whole campaign de voted a moment to their discussion. Not a Populist paper printed an editorial in their behalf. The only possible way in which the measure could be considered an issue was through the Populist state platform, which declared in its favor. But in every other direction that platform was smashed to pieces before the legislature had been in session two weeks, and it has been the popplar idea that it was never intended for anything more serious than a standard from which the average Populist might intelligently pursue his wonted and accustomed course of breaking such pledges as he had given the people. He couldn't very well be a Populist without betraying some thing, and he wouldn't have anything to betray without a platform.

But, even assuming that the Populist platform was an honest declaration of principles, and that it was intended to blnd the party in favor of maximum rates, it should have no such binding effect upon an honest representative, for it was defeated at the polls by an enormous majority. The people of Kansas declared in no uncertain tones against maximum rates at that election. There were three platforms from which the voters made their choice. The Republican and Democratic platforms declared specifically against the measure, while the Populist platform declared for it. The vote at the polls stood in this way: Republican, 19,782; Democrat, 126,660: Populist, 48,951. Conceding that the same candidates were upon both the Democratic and Populist tickets, the only way In the world to account for the big vote going to the ticket headed "Democratic" was because the voters were in harmon with the platform of principles enunciated by the Democratic party. Here, then, were 280,383 citizens who voted against the maximum rates, as compared with 41.951 who voted for them. There is but one conclusion to be drawn from these figures, and that is that every Populist member of the legislature who voted for the Brown bill did so against the wishes of a vast majority of the Kansas people.

So it will appear that the issue was made

tain, the poor legislator is indeed in desperate straits. A handful of his constituents may get together at any time and say: "Here, Mr. Legislator, we voted against this thing at the polls, but you have betrayed the way we ought to have voted, and therefore we must hang you." The woods and telegraph poles would soon be full of ripening Populistic fruit, and the stench in the land would be almost as had as that which hangs about the investigation committee at Topeka. But before dismissing the subject we desire to say to those morbidly inclined people abroad who are always rushing to public executions, that they need in no way hurry themselves over into Kansas, for the Populist party is like a big Newfoundland dog which barks like the roar of a tempest, but was never known to bite.

OLD PLAYS AND NEW WAYS.

have been presented in Kansas City with varying degrees of excellence as to casts and stagings. They are all dramas that have held sway to a greater or less extent, and, like all plays that endure, they embody human sympathies that are as changeless as the forms of expression are varied. These old bills were "Cymbeline," "Othello," 'Romeo and Juliet," "The Gladiator," 'Camille," "East Lynne," "Ingomar," "The New Magdalen," "The Ironmaster" end "Woman Against Woman." They were presented by three different companies of average excellence. With the single exception of "The Gladiator," none of them met with any distinguished success. The comparative indifference of the public to their performance illustrates the waning hold of the old plays as compared with the increasing popularity of modern new works. While the theater is constantly growing as an art factor, a social consideration and an educational institution, much has been said of the inferiority of recent dramatic writing as compared with the classics that have been handed down by the old masters or that have been more recently patterned after those old examples. If this criticism is a just one, the conclusion must be inev itably reached that public taste of to-day is lower than was the public taste of yester-

While it is true that the impulses of the masses in the selection of their entertainment are often past all logical analysis, it is hardly just to say that the tastes of the people have become vitlated because they no longer find favor in the bills that were so popular even a generation ago.

The public does not reject the old play ecause they are old, but because their style of construction has been superseded by methods less cumbersome, more consistent and more intelligent. It is a noteworthy fact that among the plays of to-day the only ones that copy the ancient formulas and still meet with popular favor are the melodramus which attract the middle classes of theatergoers, whose Illusions have not been dispelled by the transparent expedients of antiquated construction. To these theatergoers the melodrama, with its five or more acts and twice as many scenes and its regular climaxes, is still a moving reality. These same theatergoers will find pleasure in a spectacular revival of a classic play, especially if it is one of heroic character, like "The Gladiator,"

The advanced tendency in dramatic writing is to reduce the number of acts, confine each act to a single scene and disregard almost wholly the conventional climaxes. In other words, dramatists find encouragement to sacrifice, as far as possible to still retain dramatic distinction. the more rational spirit of expression, and even when they take up old plays they overcome their disadvantages to a very great extent.

The old dramatists, like the old poets and old novelists, are falling into disuse. Our noderns may not have the philosophic depth, the literary exactness, or the laborious concentration of their predecessors but they understand consistency of expression and the average intelligence better.

COLONEL PARKER AGAINST VERTI-CAL WRITING.

Whether one's handwriting should more nearly approach print, or slant at an angle of from twenty to thirty degrees from a perpendicular, or be backhand, is a ques tion that is still under discussion. What is known as the vertical system of writing since its introduction into this country about four years ago, has spread rapidly and been introduced into many schools. The old system that had grown up under the Spencers, father and sons, was too artistic, too ornate, and too slanting for the average person who wanted to write in a hurry and whose thoughts were regarded as of more value than the beauty of form as pictured in the symbols of the thoughts themselves, Besides, in many places a special teacher of penmanship had to be employed to supervise this artistic line of

When vertical writing made its appearance, it being comparatively simple, in fact plain almost to downright deformity and destitute of any element of beauty or grace, it was readily accepted as a worthy enough substitute for the old system. As with all new reforms, its advocates claimed very much for it; no doubt too much. After satisfying all school conditions, its benefits and virtues were not half exhausted. Behind it, so said, was paraded science, common sense, sanitary regulations, and a promotor of all the virtues reckoned in the calendar of the saints. Not a few were very tardy about giving in their full assent at the first dash to the new writing, and among those are the redoubtable Colonel Francis W. Parker, of the Cook county normal school, Chicago, Colonel Parker proposes not to be led by the nose, but rather to see out, to smell out, and to work out results for himself. He holds that writng is simply a means of expression, and that expression should be free, easy, natural and spontaneous. But he claims that vertical writing is the reverse of these conditions. That for the child or any other person to write it, the whole posture of the hody is constrained, and, therefore, unnatural. He would have a slant writing, or a backhand, simple and natural, entirely relieved from all constraint of hand or body, From this, he is convinced that the edueational merits claimed by the enthusiastic advocates of the vertical system are not founded upon correct principles, and as a consequence the last deliverance on the hest kind of writing for children to learn has not yet been spoken.

That vertical writing possesses merits over the old ornamental systems is evident, but that it does restrict freedom of move ment and is a slow mode of expression which is a mode of drawing rather than of writing, is beyond dispute. As the ques after the election and after the legislature tion now stands, the old is passing away had adjourned. If this principle is to ob- the new is not so satisfectory as many im-

agined it to be; in the meantime coutious people are testing and watching results. With the introduction of the typewriter, hand writing is becoming less and less important as an educational factor every year. When a simple typewriter is perfeeted that will make it as cheap as pen and ink, and this coming machine is used by everyone, then the only penmanship needed will be the ability to sign one's name. The little printing machine is destined to come, although it is still in embryo, displacing the old art of writing, just as the invention of printing did away

largely with the copylsts. Educationally considered, writing will ave its place in schools, but it is foredomed. When a letter can be made by touching a key instead of a series of muscular movements, lengthened out in order to make a combination of curves called a letter, anyone can see the immense gain Within the past two weeks ten old plays by discontinuing a species of labor which can be so much more easily performed, and which is usually more easily read.

While it doubtless will be a long time be fore this change will come in all of its fullness and be utilized by all, yet it is coming, and writing is being done more and more

by machinery every year. In the meantime it is well enough for educators to pause a while and weigh carefully the objections, if they be real objections, which Colonel Parker urges against the vertical system of writing. While a very great majority of the thinking educators differ from Colonel Parker on many subjects, yet his views always challenge attention, and he always has a reason for the faith by which he is guided.

Experiment will yet determine what is the proper slant, if there be such a one, for the easiest and simplest methods of writing. Who knows but there may yet he worked out a simple system of "shorthand" that will do away with the "longhand" writing?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

What the Greeks need is more harmony at the capital and more Smolenskis in the

The reports that gold is going out of the country again will be sure to throw William J. Bryan into another verbal spasm.

It must be confessed that the Greeks fought much more valiantly under their old pagan gods than they do as soldiers of the

Senator Gorman thinks Mr. Cleveland's

recent speech is amusing. The really amusing thing, however, is the suggestion that there is anything humorous about Cleveland's heavy platitudes. As long as William L. Wilson insists that the act which bears his name is an excel-

The inactivity of the Greek navy is exciting suspicion that possibly it is constructed on the plan of the Texas.

lent measure, Republicans are more than

willing for him to denounce the Dingley

The report that the Greeks have no inention of giving up the fight indicates that the reinforcements from Kansas City have arrived on the ground.

New York papers announce that out-oftown people who attended the dedication exercises did a large amount of shopping before leaving the city. New York therefore regards the dedication as a successful investment and has no regrets.

If the Populists are really in favor of protection, as Senator Butler avers, they ought to quit lining up with the Democrats when a vote is taken on the tariff bill.

Governor Pingree has vetoed the Michigan curfew. So far as the governor could see the bill did not propose to harm railroad companies in any way.

Mr. Altgeld explains that the wrecked Chicago banks were not the only ones from which he borrowed money. There were others-many others. If this isn't a vindication, what is it?

The proposition of Secretary Gage to reduce the revenue tax on whisky would subject him to the suspicion of trying to curry favor with the Democracy, if it were not that he proposes to make good the loss by increasing the tax on beer.

It must be admitted that in their campaign promises of a speedy return of prosperity Republicans did not make due allowance for the stupidity of the senate.

According to Lew Wallace, the Turks believe that every one of them killed while fighting Christians will go straight to heaven and come into possession of eighty houris, consequently they are willing and anxious to be slain. What a plty there are not enough Greeks to make them all

The typewriter of Banker Spalding, of Chicago, testifies that he gave her about \$75,000. If the bank's funds had held out. Mr. Spalding would probably have done something handsome by this employe.

"The senate," remarks a Populist exchange, "has done nothing of consequence since Mr. Peffer retired." That is true. It is also true that Mr. Peffer did nothing of consequence before he retired.

The fallure of the council to increase the police appropriation in accordance with his recommendations, and to the extent to which the contemplated improvement of the service requires, may help Chief Vallins to step down and out with fewer regreis, if the Democratic machine succeeds in ousting him.

Ian Maclaren has passed through a heresy trial successfully. He has not yet been arraigned on the graver charge of writing Scotch dialect stories.

Not much is heard of Captain General Weyler these days, but the gallant old warrior is not resting idly on his laurels. He is quietly starving a large number of pacificos, and occasionally finds time to butcher a squad of prisoners or burn a hospital.

KANSAS TOPICS.

"It appears to me that I knocked all of el Mary's pins down at the very first oovi."-H. B. Kelley, in a Topeka inter-

'Here, once, in an alley Titanic Of ten-plus-I roamed with my soul-Of ten-plus-with Mary, my soul; They were days when my heart was vol

And impelled me to frequently roll. And made me resistlessly roll.
Till my ten-strikes created a panic In the realms of the Boreal pole, ray ten-strike created a pante

With the menkey atop of his pole." A 16-year-old Syrian girl, who is virtuous well behaved, spent two days and two nights in the Toneka fall this week cause she had been detected in peddling ome knick-knacks about town without a ceuse. The same police force that arrest-

ed this girl march up and down every day in front of forty or more joints which are selling whisky without a license, but which are never called to account by the law. It appears to be the idea of the Populist olice commissioners that there isn't much harm in a ginmill, but that the people must be preserved from the deadly placushion at all hazards.

Dr. S. J. Crumbine gives the Dodge City Republican an explanation of how it happened that the hair of a corpse recently exhumed from the local cemetery had turned from gray to dark red. He says the decomposition of human bodies, long in the ground, produces sulphurated hydrogen gas, which nearly always changes the hai to a dark red color regardless of what color it may have had at the time of burial. Those of us who believe in the material resurrection may now look intelligently forward to a magnificent assembly of red-headed angels on that Great

Topics is in receipt of a letter from J. W. McNeal, the Guthrie banker, in the course of which he says: "The flood accounts are greatly exaggerated. The loss of life will not exceed twelve. The loss of property, while aggregating a great deal, individually very serious. taking care of the hungry in good shape.

The burning question at this hour i not what Governor Leedy thinks of that 10-gallon whisky order, but how often he

"Let us cling to the shirt waist!" shouts

a lady writer in last Sunday's issue of this great fashion journal. Which admon ition will be heeded by every store clerk who takes his rosy-posey out buggy riding this summer. A few days since Topics recounted that

the greatest verbena grower in the world was doing business at Clay Center. Last week a hall storm smashed 13,000 square feet of glass for him. However, he had \$1,500 worth of insurance in one of the companies Webb McNall is trying to run out of Kansas.

"With a quick movement," says the Wichita Eagle, "Mrs, Lease jumped in front of Lewelling, cut the rope, and the portcullis fell with a loud thud, and Breidenthal was foiled."

In the army the arrival of the paymas er and pay is known as the "ghost walk." In the departments at Washington, howver, the term is used to describe a whole ale discharge of employes. The govern ment never discharges its employes in blunt terms. A neat little note is always addressed to the victim, in which he is informed that economy compels a reduc tion of the force, but that the department will gladly avail itself of his services when additional assistance is required. It is said that discharged employes have hung around Washington for years and years waiting for the promised reinstatement, which never came. Those little notes are so friendly and appreciative that they are calculated to fool a raw hand every time We secure this information from half : dozen Kansas Democrats who have been holding places at Washington, but who managed to fall through a hole in the civil service regulations which had inadvertent ly been left without a stopper.

Atchison has an old colored preacher who ells his congregation that years ago he fell into a trance in which the Lord an peared to him and said: "Ephraim, go forth and work in my grape vineyard Ever since, he says, he has felt himself to be an "expired men," whose duty it was to "expand the Gospel."

A member of the Oklahoma legislatur who had been accused of selling out his party on some bill writes a letter to his constituents, in which he says: "I would rather be whipped through the streets as naked as the Venus Adonis than sacrific my Populist principles."

What a handy man around the threshing machine next fall Mr. Bill Rakestraw, of Sherman county, will find himself to be,

Speaking of old-fashloned people, what as become of the farmer who used to cut himself on the knee with a corn knife and let the joint water out?

Your Kansas girl is pluck and old busi ness from the sole of her No. 2 shoe to th crown of her curly head. The other day Miss Ethel Hoskinson started from Corning to Seneca to take the examination fo teachers. Reaching a stream which had been swollen by the floods, her team and uggy were washed away. She kept he head, however, and the horses managed to swim out on the other side, after floating quite a distance down the stream, though all the time the buggy was so far below th urface that the water came up to her arm dis. Once on the bank, she drove hurried into Seneca, borrowed some dry clothes from an acquaintance, ran over to the cour house, took the examination, and triumph antly bore off a first grade certificate If the Greeks had this kind of ginger, old Turkey's bones would be picked bare.

"No, we are not believing in Christian science this week," says the editor of the Liberal News to an inquiring correspondent. "There is so much to believe in nov that we have to divide our time. On week we believe in Christian science, the next in rainmaking, the next in money talk and the next in objective apparitions. Then we take a rest for a week and don't be lieve in anything. It's a good way an keeps a man's faith from getting strained,

District Judge Price was holding cour in Clark county one day last week, who a young man walked into the court room with his hat shoved back on his head and a cigarette in his mouth. The judge took one look at him and then thundered out "Boy, take off that hat, splt out that eight ette, take a seat, and do it all might quick!"

An affair is reported from Chanute which will be useful in portraying the entangle ments which sometimes beset an officer is performance of his duty, and at the same time it discloses preity plainly that the boys are having some fun with the new justice of the peace down there.

In the trial of a case before this justice recently, Lawyer Cates became offensive to such an extent that he was fined \$10 fo contempt of court. He refused to pay the fine and the justice ordered the city mar shal to make him work it out on the streets Thirty friends of the lawyer at once volunteered to assist him in working out th ine, and the perplexed marshal called upor the justice for information as to his right to accept substitute labor. The justice gravely pondered over the situation and then decided that whatever might be don by a principal might also be done by his agent or servant, but, inasmuch as the law loes not recognize a fraction of a day, he instructed the marshal that each of substitutes must put in a full day. At this point the city attorney interposed with the opinion that if each substitute worked a full day, the result would be \$30 worth of work, whereas the fine amounted to only \$10, and the city would have laid itself open to the charge of extortion and possibly damage suit.

At the last accounts the parties interested had all agreed to submit the matter to At-torney General Boyle for decision, and in the meantime Lawyer Cates is at liberty upon his personal bond.

"In the early days of Atchison," says the liebe, "a rich Boston man named Claffin came to town to assist in celebrating the opening of the Central branch. He was intertained by George W. Glick, and the morning after his arrival, he came down-stairs, and asked Mr. Glick for a Bible, saying he always read a chapter in the Bible before breakfast. Mr. Glick said e would get one, but found there was not Hible in the house. He slipped over to Cottonwood Brown's, supposing he would have one, but he didn't, and then he went

either, and finally Mr. Glick was compelled to confess to his guest that there wasn't a Bible in the neighborhood. The late L. A. Alderson operated a Bible depository a Atchison at that time, and used to tell how Glick, Brown and Parker slipped into his store one morning, one after another, and bought a Bible each. It was the morning after the Boston man inquir-I for one.

The Stolen "Lor."

From the Philadelphia Press. Some good Englishmen gether pleased that the so-called "log of the Mayflower" should be surrendered from English custody to that of the United States. Earl Stanhope gives notice that after the Easter vacation he the house of peers an humble address to her majesty, praying her "to stop this sort of thing." The London Times is able to reof thing." cice that the bishop of London, on whose order the "log" was restored, "finds it pos-sible to gratify the desire of the American people, yet it must not be supposed to be a light thing thus to part with documents of national significance." It adds: "The manuscript book which we are no

anding over the United States is as much a part of our history as of theirs. Every-thing said by Lord Romilly in praise of the restoration of British archives accordingly applies with even greater force to our nquishment of claims to documents in which this country has a direct interest, owever the interest of the United States may be judged to transcend our own. It is the more necessary to claim full credit for acts of courtesy and friendship, because the American senate renders it impossible to draw the two countries together by the stronger bonds which her majesty's govrument has shown itself ready to forge The restored British archives to walch allusion is made by the Times refers to

the surrender by the Library company, of Philadelphia, of certain manuscript umes presented to that library in 1799, consisting of official correspondence bearing he sign manual of James L and Elizabeth, and which the Library company adjudged belonged properly to the archives of Great Britain. None of the English accounts of he surrender of the Mayflower log atempts to account for its presence in Great Britain at all. That log is no log, but Governor William Bradford's history of the Plymouth Plantations, It contains a list of the passengers who came to this country in the Maytlower in 1620, a feature to which it probably owes its title "log of

he Mayflower." This book was written in and originally was in possession of this country. How, then, did it come under the jurisdiction of he bishop of London? Though our English exchanges do not tell us, we are not left wholly in the dark. The manuscript was readily accessible to early Massachu setts historians and was freely quoted from by them. The manuscript was passed American Revolution was deposited in the New England library, then lodged in the Old South church building. ish troops occupied Boston the Old South church was used by them as a school, and the library there established vas free to all marauders.

When Boston was once more in posses sion of its own people the Bradford history, ow called "the log of the Mayflower," was nissing from its accustomed place and coninued lost, so far as the people of Massachusetts knew, until discovered by an American a little more than thirty years

Its restoration to the United States after these many years is no doubt a very meri-torious act of international courtesy. The gracious grantors are certainly entitled to ake all the credit to themselves they desire, but they should not in their self-gloriication lose sight of or ignore the fact that after all in returning this manuscript to the United States they are simply restor-ing stolen goods to their rightful owners,

The Lost Chord.

From the New York Sun. Kansas has not been as famous in litera ture as in politics and economics, because no one state could be expected to take double first-class scholarships, but Kanthe vocal chords. Last week the annual ession of the Kansas Academy of Language and Literature was held at Manhat-In the list of papers read are to be noticed "The Ethical Principles of Art." by William Bishop, of Salina; "Music as a Language," by Mrs. Gaston Boyd, of Mentor;" "Language, Dialect, Notes," by Professor Carruth, president of the academy; Character Study in Recent History and Fiction," by Professor White, of the Kanas agricultural college; "The Lawyer in Literature," by C. C. Coleman, of Clay Center; "Ecbatana," by Miss Florence L Snow, of Lawrence; an original story by Mrs. C. F. Wilder, of Manhattan; sas Literary Clubs," by Mr. A. G. Canfield, of Lawrence; "Poetry in Song." by Mr Thomas Emmet Dewey, of Abilene, and symposium and discussion of Kansas literature," by the company. No doubt the value of the essays and discussions was equal to their variety. It could have been vished, however, that the one figure which s as vast in the literature as in the polities of Kansas had been on view in the Kansas Academy of Language and Literature. Where was the Hon. Percy Daniels some time lieutenant governor, author of the world-shaking plan for the taxation of "inordinate wealth," and also author of "Sunflower Tangle," 'The Gordian Knot Untied," "American Despots," and sundry other verse and prose, which the world will not willingly let die? There should have been a special discussion of the Hon. Percy Daniels.

One Mighty Nation.

From the New York Advertiser. No part of yesterday's imposing pageant was more significant than the appearance of multitudes of ex-Confederates in the mighty column which filed by the stately tomb in Riverside park. Their presence was more than a tribute to a great military chieftain. It was more than a tribute to a noble and magnanimous character. It was indictative that the "war is over" the real sense of the word and that the ardent wish of the dying hero of Appo-mattox for the complete reunion of the North and South was at last realized. The hery Toombs, of Georgia, once boasted that would yet call the roll of his slaves at the foot of Bunker Hill monument, and there was a time when these surviving veterans of the "Lost Cause" dreamed of entering this metropolis in serried ranks as onquering warriors; yesterday they were welcomed and saluted as brethren ommon household. No one could witness the spectacle and doubt that the scars of the rebellion were healed.

One of Grant's chief claims to immor tality with future generations will be the work he unobtrusively wrought in bringing together the estranged sections of the re-public. He chastised the South with unyielding vigor, but it was not in a spirit of vindictiveness and anger. While rushed treason with a mailed hand, he taught the South that he was the champion of peace. Grant, the pacificator, as well as Grant, the military victor and patriot, will be the Grant whose memory the oming ages will revere.

Great Surplus Exports From the Cleveland Leader.

The rush of importers during the last half of March to get merchandise into the United States before the duties could changed by congress did not prevent a great surplus of exports over imports for the month. Excluding the foreign products exported through the United States, the exports exceeded the imports by 5,000,000. In the corresponding month of last year the excess of exports was les than \$8,000,000. It seems quite probable that for the fiscal year ending June 30 the exports of domestic merchandise will surpa the imports by not less than \$330,000,000. The difference may be as much as \$340,000,000 It was nearly \$309,000,000 at the end of last

Such a surplus swamps all interest payto Virgie Parker's. Parker didn't have one, ments due to Europe, all freight charges the purpose."

paid to foreign steamship owners, the expenses of American travelers in Europe, and whatever else may be offset against it. Beyond question the indebtedness of the American people to foreigners was greatly lessened in 1896, and it will be cut down again in 1897. A few such years would would be made permanently easier.

make a very material difference in the obligations of this country to Europe, and the money market in the United States Under the new tariff which the Repub lican party is soon to place upon the stat-

Noble Lives.

G. H. Hepworth, in New York Herald, Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.-Mat-

thew, v:48. It is difficult to estimate and impossible to fully appreciate the value of great men. And yet their accomplished greatness is tribute to our possible greatness, for each great man's life and achievements are subtle kind of flattery of ourselves. The ability which he has developed, or some thing akin to it, lies dormant in our own souls. He is like the seed in the ground which has been watered by the dews of heaven and neurished by the sunshine until it has borne excellent fruit. We are like seeds in the hand, unplanted seeds, with out opportunity to show the kind of fruit we are capable of bearing. Most souls bear a close resemblance to each other, and under more favorable circumstances the large majority would surprise themselves at their

own ability to do and dare. During the late war, for example, and for that matter in all wars where patriot-ism has been the chief impulse heroic deeds were so common that history grew tired of recording them. Human nature became inspired, and ordinary men resembled gods The shock of battle was a kind of magic which brought to the surface the grandest

qualities of character. The fact that circumstance forces a man to show himself hides a profound truth quite worthy of our contemplation, and it in that truth that we have a right to take pride. To illustrate: Washington might have drauged a surveyor's chain to the hour of his death, Cromwell might have spent his life at the brewer's vat. David might have watched his flock of sheep until he grew gray with years, Bol ivar might have peddled drugs to the end of time, Lincoln might have lived and died in comparative obscurity. Luther might have occupied an unmarked grave, Grant might have spent his summers and winters as the proprietor of a tanvard, had not that omnipotent mystery which we call circumstance blown a bugle blast and roused certain energies which were fast asieep. The lightning flash entered their souls, and on the instant they multiplied their own capabilities, and were no more from one Bradford to another, through several generations, and some time before the the same being he was when an infant.

The truth behind these facts is that we who are only ordinary folks, doing very ordinary things, have the same qualities packed away somewhere in the secret recesses of our souls. No man can tell what he is capable of doing until his environment puts him on his mettle and forces him to do his utmost. Most of us who only live humdrum lives are practically almost dead. or at the best only half alive. We know nothing about ourselves, and there is nothing in our narrow circle that can teach us The elements of a superb kind of greatness are there, but they are like Samsor ago in the library of the bishop of London when asleep. Perhaps we shall finish our at Fulham. waking up, but in some other world, sur-rounded by different opportunities, that which sleeps will be aroused. "It doth not yet appear what we shall be."

Admirable proofs that we contain unknown possibilities are to be found in constant evidence. They are not confined to any class, but are to be seen in the humblest homes as well as among the cultured. If your memory will serve you, you can recall instances in which poor creatures from whom nothing but despair could apparently be expected have patiently borne a distressing physical aliment for years and troubled no one with complaints; or other instances in which both men and women have made a hopeless struggle and still been cheerful of heart and sweet of temper; or still other instances in which homes have been devastated by death or by happenings infinitely worse and the members thereof have stood up against fate with more than the courage of the soldier who faces a storm of bullets or the field of battle. Examples of this kind are scattered throughout our human history, known only by Him from whom nothing can be hidden. The bravery of everyday life is something marvelous to contemplate, and one cannot witness to without a higher appreciation of the capacities of the soul, for at times it be comes illuminated as though the spirit of

God shone through it. When we see the great men who have molded the destinies of the world we may feel a profound gratitude for the large day's work they have done, but, more than that and better, we are conscious of a kind of kinship between them and ourselves There are throbbings in the heart which cannot be repressed. There are longings in our eyes as we look on these magnificent achievements, and we ask ourselves whether the impulse to envy greatness is not a divine hint that some time and some

where we also may be great. The Christ has astonished us by a wonderful statement in this regard. He declared by intimation that human nature s practically limitless in development, for through the air of the centuries comes the resounding command, "Be ye perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect!" What this means exactly we cannot know as yet, but no such words of encouragement were ever uttered before. Not in this life can we do ourselves justice; the long ages of eternity must have the means of education which are now denied. Nothing short of immortality will serve the purpose which the Father had in view when He breathed into us the breath of His own life.

Reflections of a Bachelor. From the New York Press.

Some men are born great, some achieve greatness and some have great thirsts upon them.

The shorter and punier a man is the more he tries to cut his beard so he will look fierce. The difference between a journalist and

a newspaper man is that one has long hair and the other a long head. After a girl gets married she spends the time she used to put in killing wrinkles in watching for the first gray hair. A married man generally brags that he

does the most for his country, but a bachlor knows too much to brag about anything. A woman's idea of a war can always b narrowed down to the belief that one side

a brute, and she hopes it will get whipped, anyway. Heroic.

They hugged him and they cheered him; they sought to kiss his hands; They acted as if suddenly they'd been bereft of sense:

But he was no prince who'd saved them from the wrath of savage bands-He had merely banged the pigskin up against the farthest fence. -Cleveland Leader,

Anywhere in the West. From the New York Press.

First chicken-"There's company comine o-morrow. Guess we'd better roost high to-night. Second chicken-"My! Let's go up on the nirship."

Plenty. From the Indianapolis Journal.

"Do you know, I have half a mind to go out of party politics and become a mugwump?

"Half a mind? That is quite sufficient for

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

A tramp who had died of hunger at the oot of Sixth street and the East river was found Thursday morning, says a New York correspondent, a Fible by his side. In this book he had kept a record of his travels and privations. It is a mystery whether these entries had been made in a spirit of scoffing and sarcasm, or by a true believer. Here are some of the notations-perhaps the reader can solve the puzzle left by a man who storved to death

"December 24, 1806-God has given me 20 debt-paying years may fairly be expected. cents through Tom Kearney "January 26, 27 and 28, 1897-Hath some

> "January 29-Thirty-two thousand pro ises in the Bible.

"February 10 and 11-Some bread. February 14 and 15-No bread.

bread.

"February 17 and 18-A little bread. "March 7-God gave me 10 cents." Apparently the man had a very rough ime of it in March and May of last year. His Bible shows the following record:

eaten nothing for fully eleven days, except cents' worth Three cents' worth of cake on the fourth

"May 18, 1896—I have eaten my first 5 cent neal in eighteen days, for during the first eleven I had but I cents' worth of cake, God his given me 15 cents to-day. I have this day walked twenty-five miles."

"I'd rather walk with President McKinley than be a member of his cabinet, said an Ohio man who knows the president's habits. "When the major asks you to take a walk with him you may know it is a mark of confidence. He used to do it at Columbus when he was governor. At Canton, after the election, he saw a great many people at his house, but I noticed that whenever he was out walking with anybody, that person was pretty to be in his mind for something dispos I have observed it since he came to Washington in half a dozen appointments which were not generally underbut I recollect having seen every one of those persons out walking with the major. Next to walking, I suppose, terseback riding is the hest evidence of consideration. You know, when the president began his horseback riding here General Miles supplied the horse and also rode with him. Well, when General Miles applied for leave to go to Europe and watch the fighting, Secretary Alger did not seem to think it could be done. Other members of the calinet took the same view, but if they had known the president's habits, and had recalled how often he and General Miles had already been out tegether on horseback, they might have guessed that Miles would get permission to go.

Mr. Richard Watson Gilder, editor of the Century, attracted an enviable share of attention at the ceremonies at Grant's tomb on Tuesday, says the New York Sun. Few persons of whatever degree of greatness were so conspicuous. Mr. Glider was member not of the presidential, but of the ex-presidential party. He drove up to the reviewing stand in the victoria with Mr. Cleveland, and from the moment of his arrival until his departure he drew all eyes. Perhaps Mr. Gilder's costume had something to do with this. Upon the editor's head was a big black sombrero, over one shoulder hung a great black clock, and both hat and cloak looked for all the world like theatrical properties. The most apparent thing about the editor, however, was the broad, bright red searf binding his good right arm. Just what this searf was for, whether it covered a wound or was meant for a badge, or was a simple way of attracting attention, none of the observers knew. If the latter was its object, though, it achieved it, because Mr. Gilder kept the arm crooked carefully at his side, while the cloak was so draped that both the arm and scarf were on con-

tinuous exhibition. An entertaining bit of cossin about Herbert Spencer comes from London, where it is reported that the great philosopher, always highly sensitive to noises, is now suffering greatly from the whistles of locout the story that follows has its amusing phases: Some years and, during a stay in Scotland, he was maddened by the perormance of a cock that crowed inconceivably early. After a period of pro-longed suffering it occurred to him that if the early cock were tied by the legs to ts perch it would be unable to crane up for the act of crowing. So, by a fine effort of induction, Mr. Spencer got up, and, with his pocket handkerchief, tied the reature firmly to its perch, and then went back to bed. Whether the cock went on crowing is not recorded, but Mr. Spencer, confident in his theory, slept.

Some idea of the amazing elasticity of London may be had from the statement recently made in the Lancet that "the iwellers and workers in the city are ten times as numerous at high noon as they are at midnight, and it is estimated that over a million persons enter and leave the city daily on business of one kind or an-other." The word "city" here used applies to the city proper, which in 1891 had a night population of only 27,694, as against a day population at the same date of 301,-384. If such narrow limits are capable of such expansion between midnight and noon, there would seem to be no limit

When President McKinley was running for congress in 1890, he was forced to fight for every vote, owing to the way in which Ohio had been gerrymandered by the Dem-ocrats. One Republican had recently been married and had gone off on his wedding trip, and in order to secure his vote Mr. McKinley sent him this telegram: "It is right to be married, and I congratulate you with all my heart, but every man owes debt to his country. This debt can best be paid by voting as his conscience dictates on election day." The young man returned in time to vote.

Young persons who are dazzled by the

to the expansion to a city of 4,500,000 during

the queen's jubilee next June.

charms of stage life may find something interesting in the following statistics: 'The majority of leading people in road companies get but \$50 a week or less Three-fifths of the profession as a whole, including chorus girls, ballet and supernumeraries, average but about \$15 a week, which means an average of less than 39 when spread over the whole twelve months of the year. The other two-fifths do not average more than \$35 a week, including stars, taking it for the year."

Expert telegraph operators make what seems to be a very sensible criticism of the newly devised "synchronograph" system, whose inventors claim for it the possibility of sending 3,000 words a minute on one wire. It is not denied that the mechanism of the new machine may make such a rate of transmission possible. But it is claimed that the preparation and transmission of messages for this, and other machines working on the same general principle, consume so much time that nothing is saved in the end.

There was one peculiar feature of the Grant demonstration that savored more of Old World ways than is customary in a land like this. When President McKinley arrived, and on several other occasions during the day, numerous beggars crowded around his carriage, hats in hand, soliciting aims. In each instance he scattered coin, for which there was immediately a scramble, in which others took part, the mendicants in all probability going empty-

Four days after Thomas Long died in Hamilton, Ont., his widow sent to Concord lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen the money for an unpaid assessment for which he had been suspended. lodge refused to accept the money and to pay her the \$2,000 insurance. She brought suit to collect it, and on Tuesday the court